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Embodiments of the present invention provide a hybrid fiber-coax network having a head end and at least one fiber node in two-way communication therewith. A cable modem is located within the fiber node that provides a communication channel.

- 5 The communication channel is adapted to transmit at least one informational signal that is indicative of a condition of the fiber node to the head end and is adapted to receive at least one control signal from the head end.

[illegible]